

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

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TAGS: UNWFC, FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON RULES OF PROCEDURE:
GROUP 77 PROPOSALS ON WFC-FAO RELATIONS

1. AT CLOSE OF CONFERENCE DAY JANUARY 21, GROUP-77 SPOKESMAN (JARED SALIM KHAN) ORALLY PRESENTED SHORT AND RELATIVELY MODERATE SET OF PROPOSALS BELOW, WHICH ARE TO BE CONFIRMED IN WRITING LATER. KHAN SAIN AMBIGUOUS RESPONSE TO AUSTRALIAN QUESTION THAT THIS IS FULL OUTLINE OF GROUP-77 PROPOSALS, AND THERE SHOULD BE NO MAJOR ADDITIONS. DISCUSSION WITH MEXICAN DELGATION INDICATES THAT INDIVIDUAL GROUP 77 DELEGATIONS MAY INTRODUCE PROPOSALS MORE PRO-FAO OR EVEN LESS-FAO, BUT THAT GREAT MAJORITY OF GROUP 77 STRONGLY OPPOSES SUGGESTIONS TO INCREASE FAO ROLE VIS-A-VIS WORLD FOOD COUNCIL.

2. U.S. DELEGATION HAS TAKEN POSITION THAT GROUP 77 PROPOSALS RELATING TO FAO, EITHER EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY, RAISE QUESTIONS OF APOLITICAL NATURE REGARDING STATUS OF WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. ALSO G-77 PROPOSALS ON APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (ED) ARE OUTSIDE OUR COMPETENCE AS THEY IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON
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SECRETARY-GENERAL APPOINTMENT OF ED NOT CONTEMPLATED IN THE

DA AND WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS CREATING WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. U.S. WOULD NOT OPPOSE ANY DELEGATION PRESENTING THESE ISSUES TO WFC TO CONSIDER, BUT U.S. DELEGATION REGARDS WORKING GROUP ON RULES OF PROCEDURE LACKS LEGAL COMPETENCE (RE ED) AND POLITICAL (AND PERHAPS LEGAL) STATURE (RE FAO) TO DISCUSS ISSUES. SINCE MINISTERS HAVE CREATED WORLD FOOD COUNCIL IN A PARTICULAR RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, (INCLUDING FAO), IT IS UP TO MINISTERS AT WORLD FOOD COUNCIL TOMAKE OR RECOMMEND ANY ADJUSTMENTS IN THAT RELATIONSHIP THEY DEEM APPROPRIATE. COMMENT: WHILE MOST G-77 PROPOSALS ARE MODERATE AND COULD BE DISCUSSED BY U.S. DELEGATION, U.S. DELEGATION IS CONCERNED THAT DISCUSSION WILL QUICKLY DEVELOP INTO BROAD REVIEW OF WFC-FAO RELATIONSHIP...DISCUSSIONS WHICH ONCE BEGUN, WILL BE DIFFICULT TO STOP AND WHICH WOULD ENSURE FAILURE OF WORKINGGROUP TO COMPLETE ITS WORK.

3. FIRST FOUR PROPOSALS WERE DESCRIBED AS AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING RULES:

A) RULES 2, PARA 1 - INSERT NEW PARAGRAPH D. "AT THE REQUEST OF THE CONFERENCE OR COUNCIL OF FAO."

B) RULE 5, PARA 2B, ADD AS VII "THE FAO OR OTHER RELEVANT UN AGENCIES."

C) RULE 8, PARA 1, SECOND LINE AFTER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, INSERT "THE CONFERENCE OR COUNCIL OF THE FAO."

D) RULE 35, ADD "COPIES OF THIS REPORT SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GOVERNING BODIES OF THE FAO AND OTHER RELEVANT UN AGENCIES."

4. SECOND SET OF FOUR PROPOSALS WAS DESCRIBED AS AMENDMENTS TO NRE RULES (NOTE: APPARENTLY MEAINING RULES NOT YET DISCUSSED IN CURRENT WORKING GROUP MEETING):

A) RULE 24. NEW PARAGRAPH 4, GIVEN IN SUBSTANCE ONLY, WITHOUT PRECISE WORDING. THAT THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (SIC) SHOULD NOT ONLY INFORM THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL BUT SHOULD CONSULT WITH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES AT HEADQUARTERS ON ALL ISSUES AND HAVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THEM.

B) CHAPTER VII, APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARIAT. USE TEXT OF EFC/WG/3 PARAGRAPH 5E, DELETING BRACKETS.

C) NEW RULE TO BE INSERTED AFTER RULE 25. HEADING "RELATIONSHIP LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH THE FAO AND OTHER RELEVANT UN AGENCIES." TEXT: "APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIP AGREEMENTS CONTAINING PROVISIONS ON THE MEANING OF COOPERATION AND COORDINATION OF THE WORK SHALL BE MADE BETWEEN THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO AND THE HEADS OF OTHER RELEVANT UN AGENCIES, IN THE SERVICING OF THE COUNCIL."

D) RULE 15. REARRANGEMENT OF PARAGRAPHS (NOT SPELLED OUT), WITHOUT CHANGING WORKING, BUT DELETING BRACKETS.VOLPE

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